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LEGISLATIVE NOTES AND REVIEWS

EDITED BY JOHN A. LAPP

War Legislation. During the years 1916 and 1917, the congress of the United States and the legislatures of the several states have naturally been very active in the passage of laws designed to place the country in a condition of preparedness to meet the exigencies growing out of the declaration of war against the Imperial German government. The volume of legislation has been extraordinary and covers a wide range of subjects. This article gives a brief review of the military legislation enacted in forty states, including nine sessions of 1916 and thirty-six sessions of 1917.

Leaving out of consideration the absent voters acts, designed to apply primarily to soldiers and sailors absent from their states on service, and certain other laws of minor importance, two hundred and twelve separate and distinct laws have been enacted by the forty states reviewed to place the several states on an efficient and adequate war footing. These laws provide for the creation of state councils of defense; the amendment and codification of the general militia laws; the registration of aliens; the repair and construction of armories and barracks; the taking of a census of the military resources of the states; the definition of the crimes of sedition, treason, syndicalism and sabotage; prohibition of the desecration and misuse of the national flag and the national anthem; the introduction of military training in schools and colleges; the conservation, augmentation and distribution of food, fuel and other necessities of life; requiring the display of flags on school houses and other public buildings; the acceptance by the state of aeroplanes given or donated for the public defense; calling retired officers of the national guard back into active service; the creation, maintenance and equipment of cadet companies; the establishment of home guards; authorizing political subdivisions of the state to extend financial aid to the indigent dependents of enlisted men; the creation of market departments; authorizing the temporary release of men from the national guard and naval militia to work on the farms;

modifying the bank acts relative to demand deposits and financial reserves; permitting insurance companies to assume risks involving bombardment and marine losses; creating state police departments; prohibiting the sale of liquor in the vicinity of forts and cantonments; modifying the explosives storage laws; creation of municipal emergency police service; releasing children from school attendance without loss of credit when engaged in farm work; the institution of secret investigations involving the loyalty of persons under suspicion; authorizing the boards of education to close the educational institutions during the continuance of the war; permitting the use of rifle ranges on Sunday for practice shooting; requiring first aid to the injured to be taught in the schools; forbidding the placing or inserting of rock or metallic substances in saw logs; authorizing the governor, as a war measure, to take possession of private property; declaring a moratorium on debts and a stay of proceedings on executions; prohibiting discriminations against persons habited in military uniforms; authorizing the governor to declare successive legal holidays applicable to the whole state or to any part thereof; providing for the leasing of the fishing force to the federal government; prohibiting the hoarding of foodstuffs and the poisoning or contamination of wells or other sources of water supply; the creation of county guards; requiring all able-bodied male persons between certain designated ages, not otherwise employed, to be assigned to public work; exemption of food products from taxation; and the acquiring of plans and specifications of forts, camps and other important military works.

State Councils of Defense. California,¹ Illinois,² Maryland,³ Nebraska,⁴ New Mexico,⁵ New York,⁶ Texas,⁷ and West Virginia passed laws creating state councils of defense, consisting of from 7 to 50 members, appointed by the governor, and representing the manufacturing interests, labor, agriculture, stock raising, the Red Cross and relief societies, the physicians, bankers, railroads, engineers, the women and the citizens generally. The board of public works in West Virginia acts as the state council of defense.⁸ Appropriations ranging from \$50,000 to \$750,000 were appropriated to carry on the work. In Indiana a state council of defense was created by executive action after the adjournment of the legislature of 1917 and it is confidently

¹ Acts, 1917, p. 24.

⁵ Acts, Extra Session, 1917, p. 19.

² Acts, 1917, p. 153.

⁶ Acts, 1917, p. 1184.

³ Acts, Special Session, 1917, p. 59.

⁷ Acts, Called Session, 1917, p. 9.

⁴ Acts, 1917, pp. 489 and 606.

⁸ Acts, Second Extra Session, 1917, p. 34.

expected that it will subsequently be placed on a statutory basis and its acts legalized.

Militia Laws. Owing to the important changes in the federal military laws of June 3, 1916, it became necessary for the states to make extensive amendments and additions to the laws regulating the organization of the militia. Accordingly new or vitally amended militia laws were enacted in Louisiana,⁹ Maryland,¹⁰ New Jersey,¹¹ Nebraska,¹² New York,¹³ Arizona,¹⁴ California,¹⁵ Connecticut,¹⁶ Florida,¹⁷ Minnesota,¹⁸ Maryland,¹⁹ Missouri,²⁰ North Dakota,²¹ North Carolina,²² New Mexico,²³ Oklahoma,²⁴ Ohio,²⁵ Oregon,²⁶ Rhode Island,²⁷ South Carolina,²⁸ South Dakota,²⁹ Vermont,³⁰ Utah,³¹ Virginia,³² Georgia,³³ Washington,³⁴ Wyoming³⁵ and Indiana.³⁶

Home Guards. The federalization of the national guard left the states without adequate military protection and steps have been taken to create home guards consisting of able bodied male persons not subject to conscription who are required to perform the duties usually discharged by the national guard and whose term of service is for the duration of the war. State defense guards of this kind, possessing a state-wide jurisdiction, have been created in California,³⁷ Illinois,³⁸ Maine³⁹ and Maryland.⁴⁰ By a law enacted by the legislature of New York, the board of supervisors of any county may appropriate money for a home defense committee until six months after the close of the war,⁴¹ and any county, city, town or village may provide military equipment and take measures to secure its defense.⁴² For the purpose

⁹ Acts, 1916, p. 540.

²⁶ Acts, 1917, p. 654.

¹⁰ Acts, 1916, p. 626.

²⁷ Acts, 1916, p. 170.

¹¹ Acts, 1917, p. 148.

²⁸ Acts, 1916, p. 657.

¹² Acts, 1917, p. 489.

²⁹ Acts, 1917, p. 611.

¹³ Acts, 1916, pp. 1861, 1271 and 1842, and 1917, p. 1902.

³⁰ Acts, 1917, p. 176.

¹⁴ Acts, 1917, p. 109.

³¹ Acts, 1917, p. 289.

¹⁵ Acts, 1917, p. 302.

³² Acts, 1917, p. 870.

¹⁶ Acts, 1917, p. 2225.

³³ Acts, 1916, p. 158.

¹⁷ Acts, 1917, p. 95.

³⁴ Acts, 1917, p. 354.

¹⁸ Acts, 1917, p. 318.

³⁵ Acts, 1917, p. 168.

¹⁹ Acts, Special Session, 1917, p. 66.

³⁶ Acts, 1917, p. 41.

²⁰ Acts, 1917, pp. 330 and 418.

³⁷ Acts, 1917, p. 1279.

²¹ Acts, 1917, pp. 221 and 225.

³⁸ Acts, 1917, p. 782.

²² Acts, 1917, p. 351.

³⁹ Acts, 1917, p. 397.

²³ Acts, Extra Session, 1917, p. 11.

⁴⁰ Acts, Special Session, 1917, p. 62.

²⁴ Acts, 1917, p. 358.

⁴¹ Acts, 1917, p. 1551.

²⁵ Acts, 1917, p. 382.

⁴² Acts, 1917, p. 903.

of securing state-wide security within its borders, New York also created a state police force.⁴³ The city of New York is authorized to employ emergency police and temporary firemen.⁴⁴ In Connecticut the governor is authorized to appoint a military emergency board of three members to perfect and maintain a body of armed troops as a constabulary guard, to be recruited from the unorganized militia of the state,⁴⁵ and any town at any annual or special town meeting may appropriate money for the maintenance of military organizations.⁴⁶ Florida provided for the organization and equipment of county guards.⁴⁷ In Maine the governor is authorized to appoint special constables for the defense of the state,⁴⁸ and provision is also made for the appointment of special deputy sheriffs.⁴⁹ In Maryland volunteer fire companies or associations, with the approval of the governor and the adjutant-general, may constitute themselves county guards.⁵⁰ In South Dakota a state constabulary, consisting of the sheriffs and deputy sheriffs of the several counties, acts under the direction of the state sheriff, appointed by the governor.⁵¹ Texas provided for the organization of the rangers home guard of 1,000 men to protect the border.⁵² In West Virginia the sheriff of any county, with the approval of the county court, may appoint not less than ten nor more than one hundred persons as special police deputies for the period of the war.⁵³ In Indiana a home defense guard is being provided for under direction of the governor and by virtue of an executive proclamation.

Military Census. New York, Connecticut,⁵⁴ Delaware,⁵⁵ Ohio,⁵⁶ Rhode Island⁵⁷ and Iowa⁵⁸ provided for the taking of a military census to ascertain the resources of the state in men and materials. In New York the census was taken on registration and election days and \$150,000 was appropriated to defray the expense.⁵⁹

Registration of Aliens. Several states, including Iowa,⁶⁰ New York,⁶¹ Connecticut,⁶² Florida⁶³ and Maine⁶⁴ have enacted laws providing for

⁴³ Acts, 1917, p. 297.

⁵⁴ Acts, 1917, p. 2220.

⁴⁴ Acts, 1917, pp. 137, 1982 and 2773.

⁵⁵ Acts, 1917, p. 863.

⁴⁵ Acts, 1917, p. 2257.

⁵⁶ Acts, 1917, p. 591.

⁴⁶ Acts, 1917, p. 2549.

⁵⁷ Acts, 1917, p. 102.

⁴⁷ Acts, 1917, p. 88.

⁵⁸ Acts, 1917, p. 278.

⁴⁸ Acts, 1917, p. 402.

⁵⁹ Acts, 1917, pp. 185 and 2491.

⁴⁹ Acts, 1917, p. 392.

⁶⁰ Acts, 1917, p. 410.

⁵⁰ Acts, Special Session, 1917, p. 61.

⁶¹ Acts, 1917, p. 294.

⁵¹ Acts, 1917, p. 757.

⁶² Acts, 1917, p. 2503.

⁵² Acts, Special Session, 1917, p. 57.

⁶³ Acts, 1917, p. 271.

⁵³ Acts, Second Special Session, 1917, p. 46.

⁶⁴ Acts, 1917, p. 85.

the registration of aliens within a fixed period, usually twenty-four hours, after the promulgation of the governor's proclamation, or within twenty-four hours after the alien enters the state. Hotels, boarding and lodging houses are required to supply information as to the residence of aliens therein.

Military Instruction in Schools. The demand for universal military training and instruction in military science expressed itself in several appropriate laws. Louisiana enacted a law requiring the teaching of military science to all male persons in the public schools above the eighth grade.⁶⁵ Maryland⁶⁶ and New Jersey⁶⁷ appointed commissions to investigate the practicability and means of introducing military training and instruction in the public schools. New York created a military training commission, consisting of the major-general commanding the national guard, one person appointed by the regents of the state university and one person appointed by the governor. This commission is required to appoint a physical director and to provide for the introduction of military training and instruction and field drill in all colleges and secondary schools. The instruction extends to all boys between the ages of 16 and 19 years.⁶⁸ Arizona provided for the organization, control and equipment of state normal and high school cadet companies and for the promotion of rifle practice.⁶⁹ Connecticut authorized the use of rifle shooting on Sunday between the hours of one and six o'clock.⁷⁰ South Dakota,⁷¹ Indiana⁷² and New York,⁷³ the latter state by an amendment to an existing act, provided for military instruction in the high schools.

Desecration of the Flag. Several states enacted new or amended old laws prohibiting the desecration, mutilation or misuse of the national flag. This list included Iowa,⁷⁴ New York,⁷⁵ Connecticut,⁷⁶ South Carolina,⁷⁷ Texas⁷⁸ and Virginia.⁷⁹ In addition, several states, including Nebraska,⁸⁰ New York,⁸¹ Florida,⁸² Maine⁸³ and New Mexico⁸⁴ require the flag to be displayed on all school houses while school is in

⁶⁵ Acts, 1916, p. 318.

⁷⁵ Acts, 1917, p. 106.

⁶⁶ Acts, 1916, p. 30.

⁷⁶ Acts, 1917, p. 2314.

⁶⁷ Acts, 1916, p. 427.

⁷⁷ Acts, 1916, p. 925.

⁶⁸ Acts, 1916, p. 1854.

⁷⁸ Acts, 1917, p. 320.

⁶⁹ Acts, 1917, p. 82.

⁷⁹ Acts, 1917, p. 608.

⁷⁰ Acts, 1917, p. 2337.

⁸⁰ Acts, 1917, p. 561.

⁷¹ Acts, 1917, p. 454.

⁸¹ Acts, 1917, pp. 1252, 102 and 2493.

⁷² Acts, 1917, p. 150.

⁸² Acts, 1917, p. 219.

⁷³ Acts, 1917, p. 99.

⁸³ Acts, 1917, p. 450.

⁷⁴ Acts, 1917, p. 437.

⁸⁴ Acts, 1917, p. 296.

session. Virginia enacted a similar law provided a majority of the patrons petition for the display of a flag;⁸⁵ and New York extends the provision to apply to court rooms, legislative chambers and public buildings and prohibits the use of the flag on articles of merchandise. Somewhat to the same purpose are two substantially identical laws enacted in Colorado⁸⁶ and Minnesota⁸⁷ forbidding the playing, singing or rendering of the Star Spangled Banner in any public place or assemblage except as an entire or separate composition or number and under no circumstances as a medley.

Food Conservation. The subject of food production, distribution and conservation has received marked attention and various expedients have been adopted to achieve the desired end. New York created two commissions to deal with the questions of food production, food distribution and food conservation, and the authority of these commissions is extended to comprehend fuel and other necessities of life. One of these commissions consists of three members, appointed by the governor;⁸⁸ and the other consists of the commissioners of agriculture and of education, the dean of the New York college of agriculture, the state director of farm bureaus, the commissioner of foods and markets and four other members appointed by the governor.⁸⁹ A third agency known as the department of farms and markets was also created.⁹⁰ To facilitate the production of farm crops, the adjutant-general, with the consent of the war department, is authorized to release men from the national guard and the naval militia for farm work.⁹¹ California created a state market commission and a state market director.⁹² Connecticut authorized the governing body of any city or town to appoint a committee to purchase and distribute food and fuel when private enterprises are unable to supply the demand.⁹³ Florida created a marketing bureau and a state marketing commissioner;⁹⁴ and Maine created a bureau of markets.⁹⁵ Maryland enacted a stringent law prohibiting the storage or hoarding of foodstuffs to enhance the price and corner the market.⁹⁶ Montana authorized the establishment of a public market in each county.⁹⁷ New

⁸⁵ Acts, 1917, p. 327.

⁹² Acts, 1917, p. 1673.

⁸⁶ Acts, 1917, p. 393.

⁹³ Acts, 1917, p. 2553.

⁸⁷ Acts, 1917, p. 358.

⁹⁴ Acts, 1917, p. 139.

⁸⁸ Acts, 1917, p. 2744.

⁹⁵ Acts, 1917, p. 216.

⁸⁹ Acts, 1917, p. 851.

⁹⁶ Acts, 1917, p. 20.

⁹⁰ Acts, 1917, p. 2671.

⁹⁷ Acts, 1917, p. 30.

⁹¹ Acts, 1917, p. 1360.

Jersey authorized the governing body of any municipality to maintain markets and to purchase and distribute food supplies.⁹⁸ New Mexico provided for the extension of coöperative agriculture to promote the production of foods.⁹⁹ Oklahoma created a market commission of three members to facilitate the exchange and interchange of commodities.¹⁰⁰ Tennessee defined and prohibited conspiracy to limit the output or control the price of coal,¹⁰¹ and authorized the various counties to maintain public market houses.¹⁰² Virginia established a division of markets in the department of agriculture and immigration,¹⁰³ West Virginia created a bureau of markets,¹⁰⁴ and enacted a law prohibiting speculation for the purpose of cornering the market and controlling the price of foodstuffs, fuel and other necessities of life;¹⁰⁵ Washington created the office of director of farm markets and provided for the production and marketing of farm products;¹⁰⁶ and Wyoming provided for the exemption of food from taxation to the value of \$100.¹⁰⁷

Definition of Crimes. The existence of a state of war has led to the definition of new offenses against the public peace and the dignity of the state and the re-definition of older offenses to secure the loyalty of citizens and provide for the protection of property and human life. Iowa declared the exciting of sedition or insurrection by writing, speaking or other means a felony and advocating the subversion or destruction of the federal or state government by force and being a member of or attending a meeting or council of any treasonable organization, society or order a misdemeanor.¹⁰⁸ New York authorized the attorney-general to conduct secret investigations to ascertain the loyalty of persons under suspicion,¹⁰⁹ and the governor is authorized to suspend the right to fish, boat or cut ice on any lake, reservoir or other lands or waters owned or controlled by the city of New York.¹¹⁰ Illinois¹¹¹ and Minnesota¹¹² made it a misdemeanor to interfere with or discourage men from enlisting in the military or naval service of the United States. The destruction or molestation of munition plants,

⁹⁸ Acts, 1917, pp. 427 and 147.

⁹⁹ Acts, 1917, Extra Session, p. 7.

¹⁰⁰ Acts, 1917, p. 74.

¹⁰¹ Acts, 1917, p. 410.

¹⁰² Acts, 1917, p. 56.

¹⁰³ Acts, 1917, p. 669.

¹⁰⁴ Acts, 1917, p. 44.

¹⁰⁵ Acts, 1917, Second Extra Session, p. 51.

¹⁰⁶ Acts, 1917, p. 471.

¹⁰⁷ Acts, 1917, p. 100.

¹⁰⁸ Acts, 1917, p. 405.

¹⁰⁹ Acts, 1917, p. 1737.

¹¹⁰ Acts, 1917, p. 1746.

¹¹¹ Acts, 1917, p. 269.

¹¹² Acts, 1917, p. 764.

armories, gas, electric, telegraph or telephone plants, sources of food or water supply, dams, reservoirs, canals, trenches, machinery, bridges, docks, quays, fortifications, warehouses, railroads or other works necessary to the successful prosecution of the war were constituted crimes in Illinois,¹¹³ Maine,¹¹⁴ Maryland,¹¹⁵ Rhode Island¹¹⁶ and Vermont.¹¹⁷ New York appropriated \$10,000 to defray the expenses of protecting the educational and other property of the state.¹¹⁸ Idaho¹¹⁹ and Minnesota¹²⁰ defined and prohibited acts of syndicalism, sabotage, advocating crime, violence and terrorism; and Idaho prohibited the placing or inserting of rocks or metallic substances in saw logs.¹²¹ Maine enacted regulations concerning the keeping and sale of dynamite, powder and other explosives.¹²² Minnesota prohibits any citizen or subject of any country with which the United States is at war to have any firearms, explosives or the ingredients of any explosives in his possession, or to hunt, capture or kill any game except in self defense.¹²³ Vermont makes it a crime to have in one's possession plans of fortifications, camps or other military works.¹²⁴

Aid to Dependents. Prior to the passage of the military insurance act the question of the necessary financial assistance to indigent dependents of enlisted or drafted men was of first rate importance, and several states enacted laws which afforded partial and temporary relief. In New York any county, city, town or village is authorized to provide financial aid for the dependents of enlisted men,¹²⁵ and an agency known as the New York patriotic fund was permitted to incorporate to furnish aid to the dependents of recruits.¹²⁶ In Maine the families of volunteers are supported partially by state aid and partially by aid extended by cities, towns and plantations,¹²⁷ and state pay, for a similar purpose, is provided for soldiers and sailors in the volunteer service of the United States.¹²⁸ Vermont authorizes cities and towns to appropriate money for the relief of dependent families of members of the national guard, and up to January 18, 1917, state pensions were paid to the dependents of the members of the national guard.¹²⁹ Laws

¹¹³ Acts, 1917, p. 351.

¹²² Acts, 1917, p. 407.

¹¹⁴ Acts, 1917, p. 96.

¹²³ Acts, 1917, pp. 651 and 839.

¹¹⁵ Acts, 1917, p. 22.

¹²⁴ Acts, 1917, p. 255.

¹¹⁶ Acts, 1917, p. 41.

¹²⁵ Acts, 1917, p. 903.

¹¹⁷ Acts, 1917, p. 255.

¹²⁶ Acts, 1917, p. 2726.

¹¹⁸ Acts, 1917, p. 2437.

¹²⁷ Acts, 1917, p. 394.

¹¹⁹ Acts, 1917, p. 459.

¹²⁸ Acts, 1917, p. 396.

¹²⁰ Acts, 1917, p. 311.

¹²⁹ Acts, 1917, pp. 108 and 466.

¹²¹ Acts, 1917, p. 446.

somewhat similar in their scope permitting any public officer of the state or any political subdivision thereof to serve on the draft boards and providing that the salaries of such officers as well as their jobs should not be discontinued or interfered with while performing military duties were enacted in New York¹³⁰ and New Jersey.¹³¹

Schools. In New York children are released from school attendance, without loss of credit or standing if they are engaged in farm work.¹³² In Arizona the state board of education is authorized to close all educational institutions during the continuance of the war if such action be deemed essential.¹³³ In Connecticut high school pupils over 14 years of age who volunteer and are accepted for farm work are permitted to reenter school without loss of standing if they maintain the prescribed food standards.¹³⁴ In Delaware first aid to the injured is required to be taught where 12 or more grades are maintained;¹³⁵ in Minnesota the teaching of patriotism is required in all schools;¹³⁶ and in New Jersey additional instruction was provided for aliens.¹³⁷

Banks and Insurance. The bank laws of the state of New York prescribing the aggregate amount of bank deposits and reserves on hand were amended¹³⁸ to meet the demands of war finances; and the insurance laws of New York¹³⁹ and Minnesota¹⁴⁰ were amended to authorize the insurance of property against bombardment, explosion or act of war and of vessels against marine losses of cargo.

Intoxicating Liquors. A few states have taken steps to eliminate the sale of intoxicating liquors to soldiers. New York forbids the sale of liquor near camps.¹⁴¹ Maryland prohibits the sale of liquor within two miles of any military camp and authorizes the appointment of five special police to patrol the dry zone, and prohibits the sale of liquor entirely within Prince George county after November 1, 1917.¹⁴² In Vermont no license of the second class for the sale of intoxicating liquor can be granted during the continuance of the war.¹⁴³

Moratorium and Stay Laws. A few states have provided moratorium and stay laws whereby suits begun against enlisted men dur-

¹³⁰ Acts, 1917, pp. 2741, 2734 and 1358. ¹³⁷ Acts, 1917, p. 883.

¹³¹ Acts, 1917, p. 883.

¹³⁸ Acts, 1917, pp. 1354 and 1640.

¹³² Acts, 1917, p. 2211.

¹³⁹ Acts, 1917, pp. 287 and 288.

¹³³ Acts, 1917, p. 282.

¹⁴⁰ Acts, 1917, p. 414.

¹³⁴ Acts, 1917, p. 2425.

¹⁴¹ Acts, 1917, p. 1547.

¹³⁵ Acts, 1917, p. 603.

¹⁴² Acts, 1917, pp. 3 and 32.

¹³⁶ Acts, 1917, p. 135.

¹⁴³ Acts, 1917, p. 244.

ing the war are to be suspended until six months after the war has been concluded and by virtue of which debts due cannot be collected during the continuance of the war. The amount of property owned by enlisted persons and exempted from attachment was increased. Laws of this kind were enacted by Maine,¹⁴⁴ Maryland¹⁴⁵ and Oregon.¹⁴⁶

Labor Laws. Vermont authorized the commissioner of industries, with the approval of the governor, to suspend the operation of the laws relating to the hours of employment of women and children, during the continuance of the war.¹⁴⁷

Involuntary Labor. Maryland¹⁴⁸ and West Virginia¹⁴⁹ provide that the governor may order all able-bodied male persons between the ages of 16 and 60, not otherwise regularly employed, to be put to work on government contracts.

Discrimination Against Soldiers. Laws designed to prohibit discrimination against soldiers and sailors in theatres, skating rinks, public conveyances, inns, hotels and other public meeting places were enacted by Maine¹⁵⁰ and Texas.¹⁵¹

Miscellaneous. A large number of miscellaneous laws were enacted. Iowa authorized the construction of armory buildings for the use of reserve officers training camps. Massachusetts empowered the adjutant-general to receive any aeroplane donated to the state. Several states have provided for calling retired officers back into active service; some amendment was made in the laws regulating the storage of explosives; and provision was made for the appropriation of real estate for military purposes. Illinois authorized the state council of defense to issue and revoke licenses for the solicitation of war relief and charity funds. The governor of Maine is authorized to commandeer buildings, machinery, equipment, horses, wagons, automobiles, aeroplanes, railroad equipment, wharves, ships, boats, fuel and gasoline for use in war purposes. In Maryland the governor is authorized to declare successive legal holidays for the whole state or any county, city, town or village whenever, in his judgment, during the war, the public interest demands it; and provision has also been made for

¹⁴⁴ Acts, 1917, p. 391.

¹⁴⁵ Acts, 1917, pp. 50, 55 and 57.

¹⁴⁶ Acts, 1917, p. 515.

¹⁴⁷ Acts, 1917, p. 192.

¹⁴⁸ Acts, 1917, p. 80.

¹⁴⁹ Acts, Second Extra Session, 1917,

p. 51.

¹⁵⁰ Acts, 1917, p. 173.

¹⁵¹ Acts, Special Session, 1917, p. 20.

leasing the state fishing force to the United States. Charleston county, South Carolina, is authorized to levy a special tax to support a naval militia.

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Legislative Investigations. *Arizona.* The appointment of three commissioners to compile, revise and codify the school laws of the state of Arizona was authorized by the last legislature.¹ A legislative committee was also provided to investigate the subject of the establishment of a state smelter and sampling works and make a report to the next Arizona legislature.²

California. A commission, appointed in 1915 to investigate the whole problem of social insurance, filed a report of its findings and recommendations with the 1917 legislature. Following this the legislature of 1917 authorized the appointment by the governor of another commission to continue the work and advise the next legislature concerning the adoption of a system of social insurance.³

Connecticut. A commission of public welfare was provided for in Connecticut to investigate the advisability of creating an agricultural and industrial board, old age pensions, health insurance, pasteurization plants, free employment bureaus, coöperative societies and pools, experiments and dissemination of information to assist farmers and live stock growers, reforestation, loans to assist the purchase of seed and fertilizer, a state bureau for making rural loans, improvements of byways, the extension of telephone and power companies' facilities in rural districts, hours of labor and minimum wage. This commission will report to the next general assembly.⁴

The commission authorized in 1915 to prepare a revision of the general statutes of the state was continued.⁵

Delaware. The legislature provided for the creation of a commission to study educational conditions and requirements, to unify and revise the school laws, and to evolve an improved and more efficient system of public instruction for the state.⁶

Another act provided for a drainage commission to suggest legislation to the next general assembly looking toward the consolidation

¹ Laws, 1917, p. 176.

⁴ Laws, 1917, p. 2335.

² Laws, 1917, p. 53.

⁵ Laws, 1917, p. 2607.

³ Laws, 1917, p. 468.

⁶ Laws, 1917, p. 628.